GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1516
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007
TOLL POLICY
Rawale Shri Mohan;Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash;Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan;Yadav Dr. Karan Singh

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received requests from Motor Transport Congress for simplifying the tax regime;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether any toll policy has been framed;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether MPs any MLAs, MLCs and any other category of persons are exempted from paying the toll tax; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) and (b): Representations have been received from All India Motor Transport Congress(AIMTC) raising a number of issues which, inter-alia question the levy of road tax and user`s fee(toll) on the road users. The levy of road tax falls under the purview of State Governments. User`s fee is however, levied for the use of National Highways, bridges, etc. which is not in the form of a tax.

(c) and (d): The levy of user`s fee is governed by National Highway (Rate of fee) Rules, 1997, the National Highways (collection of fees by any person for the use of section of National Highways/Permanent Bridge/Temporary Bridge on National Highways) Rules 1997 and the National Highways (Fees for the use of National Highways section and permanent Bridge-Public Funded Project) Rules, 1997.

(e) and (f): Certain categories of vehicles are exempted from payment of user`s fee which include the vehicles of Member of Parliament, Member of Legislative Assembly and Member of Legislative Council etc. with certain conditions, the details of which is enclosed at annexure.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1516 FOR ANSWER ON 22.8.2007 ASKED BY SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY AND OTHERS REGARDING TOLL POLICY

(I) Vehicles:-

(A) Having "VIP" symbols; or officially belonging to -

(a) President of India;
(b) Vice President of India;
(c) Governor of a State or Lt. Governor of a Union Territory;
(d) A Foreign Dignitary on State visit to India;
(e) A Foreign diplomat stationed in India using cars with "CD"/ "CC" number plates;
(f) Chairman of Rajya Sabha or Speaker of Lok Sabha or Chairman of a State Legislative Council or Speaker of a State Legislative Assembly or a Minister for the Union or State, or Leaders of Opposition in Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha or State Legislatures having the status of Cabinet Minister, if he is sitting in the vehicle; or
(g) A Member of Parliament, in the entire country, or a Member of Legislative Assembly of a State or a Member of Legislative Council of a State, in the respective State, if he produces his identity card issued by the Parliament or concerned Legislature of a State, as the case may be;

(B) belonging to winner of Gallantry awards such as Param Vir Chakra, Ashok Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Vir Chakra and Shaurya Chakra, if such awardee produces his photo identity card duly authenticated by the Competent Authority for such award. (Introduced in 2003)

(II) Defence vehicles, Police vehicles, Fire-fighting vehicles, Ambulances, Funeral vans, Posts and Telegraphs Department vehicles and Central Government and State Government vehicles on duty.

In addition to above, vehicles as per the provision of the Indian tolls (Army and Air Force) Act, 1901, further extended to Navy, are also exempted. This includes personal vehicles of servicemen under certain circumstances.